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personnel or appointment change at the same time, the increased rate of pay is deemed to be the employee's existing scheduled rate of pay when the personnel or appointment change is processed.

§ 532.415 Application of new or revised wage schedules.

(a) The head of each installation or activity in a wage area shall place new or revised wage schedules into effect at the beginning of the first full shift on the date specified on the schedule by the lead agency.

(b) No agency may retroactively change any personnel or pay actions taken between the effective date of a new or revised wage schedule and the date it is actually put into effect if the personnel or pay actions taken during this period of time are more advantageous to an employee than the same personnel or pay action would have been had the new or revised wage schedule been placed into effect on the date specified by the lead agency.

(c) In applying a new or revised wage schedule, the scheduled rate of pay of an employee paid at one of the steps of the employee's grade on an old wage schedule shall be adjusted upward to the newly adjusted rate for the same numerical step of the grade whenever there is an increase in rates. Except when there is a decrease in wage rates because of a statutory reduction in scheduled rates, the employee is entitled to pay retention as provided in 5 CFR 536.301(a)(8).

[46 FR 21344, Apr. 10, 1981, as amended at 60 FR 62701, Dec. 7, 1995; 70 FR 31305, May 31, 2005]

§ 532.417 Within-grade increases.

(a) An employee paid under a regular Federal Wage System schedule with a work performance rating of satisfactory or better shall advance automatically to the next higher step within the grade in accordance with section 5343(e)(2) of title 5, United States Code.

(b) Waiting periods for within-grade increases shall begin:

(1) On the first day of a new appointment as an employee subject to this part;

(2) On the first day of a period of service after a break in service or time

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in a nonpay status in excess of 52 weeks; or

(3) On receipt of an equivalent increase.

(c) Creditable service. The following periods of time shall be considered creditable service for purposes of waiting periods for within-grade increases:

(1) Time during which an employee is in receipt of pay, including periods of leave with pay;

(2) Time during which an employee with a prearranged regular scheduled tour of duty is in a nonpay status to the extent that the time in a nonpay status does not exceed, in the aggregate:

(i) One workweek in the waiting period for step 2;

(ii) Three workweeks in the waiting period for step 3; or

(iii) Four workweeks in the waiting period for steps 4 and 5;

(3) Time during which an employee or former employee is on leave of absence or is separated from Federal service and is entitled to continuation of pay or compensation under subchapter I of chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code. This does not apply to prevailing rate employees within a Department of Defense or Coast Guard non-appropriated fund instrumentality;

(4) A period of military service when:

(i) An employee is on leave of absence to perform such service and returns to pay status through the exercise of a restoration right provided by law, Executive order, or regulation; or

(ii) A former employee is reemployed with the Federal Service not later than 52 calendar weeks after separation from such service or hospitalization continuing thereafter for a period of not more than one year. Military service means honorable active service in the Armed Forces, in the Regular or Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service after June 30, 1960, or as a commissioned officer of the Environmental Science Services Administration after June 30, 1961, but does not include service in the National Guard, except when ordered to active duty in the service of the United States.

(5) The time between an employee's separation from an earlier position and the date of the employee's return to a civilian position through the exercise

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of a reemployment right granted by law, Executive Order, or regulation;

(6) Time during which an employee is performing service, which is creditable under section 8332(b) (5) or (7) of title 5, United States Code;

(7) The time during which an employee is detailed to a non-Federal position under subchapter VI of chapter 33 of title 5, United States Code; and

(8) Nonworkdays intervening between an employee's last regularly scheduled workday in one position and the first regularly scheduled workday in a new position.

(9) Time during which an employee is temporarily employed by another agency in a position covered by this subpart.

(d) Effective date. A within-grade increase shall be effective at the beginning of the first applicable pay period following the day an employee becomes eligible for the increase.

(e) *Equivalent increase*. The following shall not be counted as equivalent increases:

(1) Application of a new or revised wage schedule or application of a new pay or evaluation plan;

(2) Payment of additional compensation in the form of nonforeign or foreign post differentials or nonforeign cost-of-living allowances;

(3) Adjustment of the General Schedule;

(4) Premium payment for overtime and holiday duty;

(5) Payment of night shift differential;

(6) Hazard pay differentials;

(7) Payment of rates above the minimum rate of the grade in recognition of specific qualifications, or in jobs in specific hard-to-fill occupations;

(8) Correction of an error in a previous demotion or reduction in pay;

(9) Temporary limited promotion followed by change to lower grade to the former or a different lower grade;

(10) A transfer or reassignment in the same grade and step to another local wage area with a higher wage schedule;

(11) Repromotion to a former or intervening grade of any employee whose earlier change to lower grade was not for cause and was not at the employee's request; and

(12) An increase resulting from the grant of a quality step increase under the General Schedule.

[46 FR 21344, Apr. 10, 1981, as amended at 49 FR 37055, Sept. 21, 1984; 55 FR 46180, Nov. 1, 1990]

§ 532.419 Grade and pay retention.

(a) In accordance with section 9(a)(1) of Public Law 92-392 (86 Stat. 564, 573), an employee's initial rate of pay on conversion to a wage schedule established under the provisions of subchapter IV of chapter 53, title 5, United States Code, shall be determined under conversion rules prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (a) of this section, an employee's eligibility for grade and/or pay retention shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of part 536 of this title.

Subpart E—Premium Pay and Differentials

§ 532.501 Definitions.

In this subpart:

Administrative workweek means a period of seven consecutive calendar days.

Basic workweek for full time employees means the days and hours within an administrative workweek which make up the employee's regularly scheduled 40-hour workweek.

Environmental differential means a differential paid for a duty involving unusually severe hazards or working conditions.

Irregular or occasional overtime work means overtime work which is not part of the regularly scheduled administrative workweek.

Night shift differential means the differential paid the employee when the majority of regularly scheduled non-overtime hours worked fall between 3 p.m. and 8 a.m.

Overtime work means authorized and approved hours of work performed by an employee in excess of eight hours in a day or in excess of 40 hours in an administrative workweek, and includes irregular or occasional overtime work and regular overtime work.